

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending. Claims 17-22 are allowed. Claims 1, 4-10 and 23-25 are rejected. Claims 2, 3 and 11-16 are objected to. Claims 1, 10, 17 and 23 are independent claims.

Applicants' amended the title in response to the examiner's objection.

Applicants amended claims 4, 5, 6, 23 and 24 to ensure proper antecedent basis and to avoid vague and indefinite language. No new matter was added.

The examiner uses Yoichiro to reject claims 1 and 10 as having been anticipated.

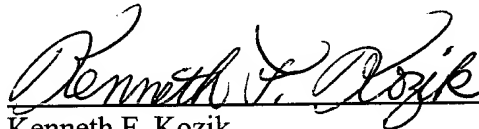
Applicants canceled claims 2 and 11 and amended claims 1 and 10 to incorporate the elements of claims 2 and 11. Accordingly, claims 1 and 10 are not anticipated by Yoichiro.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 22, 2004



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